1   1.   A method comprising:

2   in response to operation of a power button,

3   transitioning a processor-based system from a lower power

4   consumption state to a higher power consumption state; and

5   in response to re-operation of said power button,

6   transitioning said processor-based system from said higher

7   power consumption state to said lower power consumption

8   state.

1   2.   The method of claim 1 including transitioning

2   said processor-based system from the lower power

3   consumption state to a still lower power consumption state

4   in response to a lack of activity on said processor-based

5   system.

1   3.   The method of claim 2 including transitioning

2   said system from said still lower power consumption state

3   back to said lower power consumption state if activity is

4   detected around said processor-based system.

1   4.   The method of claim 3 including detecting motion

2   around said processor-based system.

1   5.   The method of claim 2 including transitioning

2   said system from said still lower power consumption state

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3 back to said lower power consumption state if light is

4 detected around said processor-based system.

1   6.   The method of claim 1 wherein said processor-

2 based system includes a television receiver, said method

3 including transitioning from said still lower power

4 consumption state to said lower power consumption state

5 whenever said television receiver is operating.

1   7.   The method of claim 1 including preventing said

2 system from going to a power off state in response to

3 operation of a power button.

1   8.   The method of claim 1 including receiving a power

2 command from a power button on a remote control unit.

1   9.   The method of claim 1 wherein said system

2 includes an operating system, said method including

3 providing a power management module in connection with the

4 operating system for said processor-based system to handle

5 power management events.

1   10. The method of claim 9 wherein said power

2 management module responds to power management events by

3 passing control to a boot loader.

1   11. An article comprising a medium that stores
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to:
3   in response to operation of a power button,
4 transition said processor-based system from a lower power
5 consumption state to a higher power consumption state; and
6   in response to re-operation of said power button,
7 transition said processor-based system from said high power
8 consumption state to said lower power consumption state.

1   12. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition from the lower power consumption state to a
4 still lower power consumption state in response to a lack
5 of activity on said system.

1   13. The article of claim 12 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition from said still lower power consumption state
4 back to said lower power consumption state if activity is
5 detected around said processor-based system.

1   14. The article of claim 13 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to detect
3 motion around said processor-based system.

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1 15. The article of claim 12 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition from said still lower power consumption state
4 back to said lower power consumption state if light is
5 detected around said processor-based system.

1 16. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition from said still lower power consumption state to
4 said lower power consumption state in response to operation
5 of a television receiver.

1 17. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that prevent said system from going to a power
3 off state in response to operation of a power button.

1 18. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that cause said processor-based system to
3 receive a power on command from the power button on a
4 remote control unit.

1 19. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition between said lower and higher power consumption
4 states using a software module at the operating system
5 kernel level.

1 20. The article of claim 19 further storing
2 instructions that cause said processor-based system to
3 respond to power management events by passing control to a
4 boot loader.

1 21. A system comprising:
2   a processor;
3   a storage coupled to said processor;
4   a power button for said system, said power button
5 operable to cause said system to transition from a lower
6 power consumption state to a higher power consumption state
7 or to transition from said higher power consumption state
8 to said lower power consumption state.

1 22. The system of claim 21 including a housing, said
2 processor and said storage mounted in said housing and said
3 power button being mounted on said housing, said housing
4 coupled to a sensor that detects activity surrounding said
5 housing.

1 23. The system of claim 22 wherein said sensor is a
2 light sensor.

1 24. The system of claim 23 wherein said system
2 further includes a television receiver coupled to said

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3 processor, and said light sensor is adapted to detect light
4 from operation of said television receiver.

1   25.   The system of claim 22 wherein said sensor is a
2 motion sensor that detects motion proximate to said
3 housing.

1   26.   The system of claim 21 wherein operation of said
2 power button does not remove power from said system.

1   27.   The system of claim 21 including a timer that
2 transitions said system to a still lower power consumption
3 state in response to system inactivity for a period of time.

1   28.   The system of claim 27 wherein said system
2 automatically transitions from said still lower power
3 consumption state in response to the detection of activity
4 proximate to said processor.

1   29.   The system of claim 21 wherein said system is a
2 set-top box.

1   30.   The system of claim 21 including a remote control
2 unit coupled to said processor, said unit including a power
3 button that transitions said system between said higher and
4 lower power consumption states.